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USIB Ad Hoc Working Group
on Soviet Military Expenditures

9 June 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Economic Intelligence Committee

SUBJECT : Air Force Proposal for Tasking EIC Subcommittee with Monitoring the Uses of Economic Intelligence in Military Planning

REFERENCES : 1. Letter from Major General Jack E. Thomas, USAF, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, to Chairman, EIC, dated 10 January 1966
2. Letter from Chairman, Economic Intelligence Committee, to Chairman USIB Ad Hoc Working Group on Soviet Military Expenditures, dated 29 February 1966

1. Following the receipt of your letter (reference 2) the ad hoc committee discussed General Thomas' proposal (reference 1) in general terms. As the result of this discussion the Air Force member was asked to apprise the ad hoc committee of the sorts of problems that the General had in mind that led to his proposal. In effect, at least some members of the committee were not clear as to the specific difficulties and could not proceed profitably in the absence of such information.

2. The Air Force member agreed to brief the ad hoc committee on this matter at its next meeting. Unfortunately, however, by reason of my sojourn in the hospital and recuperation thereafter and by reason of the almost continuous absence of the Air Force member on TDY in California a useful meeting of the ad hoc committee simply could not be held. At the same time of course, the individual members and their organizations have been alert to the various questions raised by General Thomas so that progress in that sense has been possible.

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3. It is my present understanding that the Air Force member will be in Washington next week -- I am uncertain whether this signals the end of his TDY tour. It is my intention to have a meeting, to get on with the deliberation and to produce a report at the earliest possible date. Meanwhile I shall ask the Air Force member informally to be sure that General Thomas is aware of the status of his request.



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Chairman

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